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IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 05 JAN 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors:

Jifeng LI

Application No.:

New PCT National Stage Application

Filed:

January 5, 2006

For:

DECODING APPARATUS AND DECODING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the art listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Copies of the art cited in the International Search Report (ISR), which issued by the JPO, are made available to the U.S. examiner in the national stage application, pursuant to MPEP 1893.03(g), and therefore copies of such art are not submitted herewith. The art cited in the ISR is listed on the attached PTO-1449 for an indication of consideration by the examiner. Copies of any other references listed on the PTO-1449, besides those cited in the ISR, are submitted herewith. The A. VITERBI article is discussed in the present application at page 6, line 16.

US '269 corresponds to JP '938 and US '457 corresponds to WO '833.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see <u>Beckman Instruments</u>, <u>Inc.</u> v. <u>Chemtronics</u>, <u>Inc.</u>, 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106.

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Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Ledbetter Registration No. 28,732

Date: January 5, 2006

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289,05199

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P. 1615 L STREET, NW, Suite 850 WASHINGTON, DC 20043-4387 Telephone: (202) 785-0100 Facsimile: (202) 408-5200

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

A. J. VITERBI: "An Intuitive Justification and a Simplified Implementation of the MAP Decoder for Convolutional Codes," IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, vol, 16, no. 2, Feb. 1998, pp. 260-264.

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

PCT International Search Report dated October 12, 2004.

/DH/

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